

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION
Board Meeting Room
2375 Northside Drive, Suite 108
San Diego, California 92108

MINUTES OF MEETING
APRIL 11, 2018

At 9:00 a.m., Chairman Morales called to order the meeting of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) at the Board Meeting Room, 2375 Northside Drive, Suite 108, San Diego, California 92108.

Item 1 - Roll Call and Introductions:

Board Members present: Tomas Morales, Henry Abarbanel, Eric Anderson, Betty Olson, Gary Strawn, Stefanie Warren.

Staff present: Dave Gibson, James Smith, Chris Blank, Chad Loflen, John Anderson, Amy Grove, Fisayo Osibodu, Vicente Rodriguez, Cynthia Gorham, Ben Neill, Kelly Dorsey, Eric Becker, Julie Chan, Chiara Clemente, Frank Melbourn, Lori Costa, Alex Cali, Debbie Woodward, Alan Monji, Roger Mitchell, Joann Lim, Jeremy Haas, David Barker, John Odermatt, Mike Porter, Keith Yaeger, Wayne Chiu, Michelle Santillan, Sean McClain, Sherrie Komeylyan, Lalitha Thotakura, Laura Samrad, Sarah Mearon, Brandi Outwin-Beals.

Remote Attendance: Kimberly McMurray-Cathcart, Christina Arias, Lucas Lima, Whitney Ghoram, Hiram Sarabia, Jody Ebsen, Carey Nagoda, Darren Bradford, Melissa Corona, Helen Yu, Chris Means, Kristin Schwall, Betty Fetscher, Laurie Walsh.

Others present on behalf of the San Diego Water Board: State Water Resources Control Board – Joaquin Esquivel, Catherine Hagan, Adriana Nuñez, David Boyers, Dr. Matthew Buffleben. California Court Reporting – Marlee Nelson.

Public Attendance: Sandra Jacobson, *South Coast Steelhead Coalition*; Christopher McKinney, Angela Morrow, Nicki Branch, *City of Escondido*; Baron Partlow, *Stop the Poop*; Christopher Trees, *San Elijo Joint Powers Authority*; Helen Haass, Len Sinfield, *U.S. Navy*; Mike Rimmer, *Stone Brewing*; Rasheen Chrisoph, *AMEC Foster Wheeler/Wood*; Nick Popaditch, *Naval Base San Diego*; Michael Welch, *Michael Welch Consulting*; Rachel Davenport, Alejandra Gavaldón, *City of San Diego*; Neil Mohr, *Republic Services*; Byron Watson, *Resident of San Diego*; Brian Bilbray, *City of Imperial Beach City Council*; Dante Parmintuan, *Mountain Trust Realty/Resident of Imperial Beach*.

Item 2 - Public Forum

The following stakeholders addressed the Board regarding trans-border sewage flows in the Tijuana River Valley:

- Brian Bilbray, City Council Member, City of Imperial Beach
- Dante Parmintuan, Realtor/Resident of Imperial Beach
- Baron Partlow, Founder, Stop the Poop

Neil Mohr, Republic Services, provided an update on the Sycamore Landfill.

Item 3 - Minutes of Board Meeting: December 13, 2017
February 14, 2018

Mr. Anderson moved to approve the December 13, 2017 Minutes, and Dr. Abarbanel seconded the motion. Board Members Abarbanel, Anderson, Olson, and Strawn, voted "aye," with Chair Morales and Board Member Warren abstaining. The motion passed.

Mr. Strawn moved to approve the February 14, 2018 Minutes, and Ms. Warren seconded the motion. Board Members Abarbanel, Anderson, Morales, Strawn, and Warren voted "aye," with Board Member Olson abstaining. The motion passed.

Item 4 – Chairman's, Board Members', State Water Board Liaison's, and Executive Officer's Reports. These items were for Board discussion only. Public testimony was not allowed, and the Board took no formal action.

Chairman Morales asked Board Members to notify him of any issues they would like to address at the Chairs' meeting in Sacramento later this month. Mr. Strawn suggested the formation of a multi-regional task force to address water quality issues related to homeless populations in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Diego Counties.

Dr. Abarbanel asked Mr. Gibson to report on a meeting that took place on April 9 among Regions 2, 6, and 9 to discuss next-generation monitoring methods. Mr. Gibson summarized that meeting and indicated that there would be another such meeting in the summer.

Joaquin Esquivel provided an update on State Water Board activities and responded to Board Member questions and comments.

Chair Morales called a brief recess at 9:52 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

Mr. Gibson congratulated Senior Engineering Geologist Julie Chan on her upcoming retirement and welcomed Senior Engineering Geologist Kelly Dorsey as the new Chief of the Site Restoration and Groundwater Protection Branch. He also welcomed Martin Valerocasas as a Student Assistant in the Site Restoration and Agricultural Program Unit.

Mr. Morales presented Senior Water Resource Control Engineer Eric Becker with a 25-year Service Award.

Mr. Strawn thanked staff members for their assistance and participation in the Trout in the Classroom program at Valley Center High School and King Chavez Academy.

Item 5 – Future Agenda Items: Board members may discuss items for possible inclusion on future agendas (*David Gibson*)

Dr. Abarbanel requested analysis of the climate change threats posed by radioactive waste from the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. He also suggested the creation of a volunteer climate science advisory board to keep the Board updated on climate science, particularly as it relates to discharge permits. Dr. Abarbanel further requested that staff work with the Attorney General's Office of Environmental Justice to determine how to advance the Board's environmental justice goals.

Consent Calendar: Items 6 through 9 are considered non-controversial issues. (NOTE: If there is public interest, concern, or discussion regarding any consent calendar item or a request for a public hearing, then the item(s) will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered after all other agenda items have been completed.)

Item 6 – Waste Discharge Requirement Rescission: Rescission of Orders Nos. 93-27 (Hideaway Lake Estates) and R9-2007-0046 (Oak Tree Ranch Private Residential Community Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Facility), San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2018-0006). (*Brandon Bushnell and Alex Cali*)

Item 7 – Waste Discharge Requirement Rescission: Rescission of Order No. 87-61, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, La Cima Conservation Camp, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2018-0031). (*Brandon Bushnell and Alex Cali*)

Item 8 – NPDES Permit Reissuance: Waste Discharge Requirements for the San Elijo Joint Powers Authority, San Elijo Water Reclamation Facility Discharge to the Pacific Ocean via the San Elijo Ocean Outfall (Tentative Order No. R9-2018-0003, NPDES No. CA0107999). (*Joann Lim*)

Item 9 – NPDES Permit Reissuance: Waste Discharge Requirements for the City of Escondido, Hale Avenue Resource Recovery Facility (HARRF) and Membrane Filtration/Reverse Osmosis Facility Discharge to the Pacific Ocean through the San Elijo Ocean Outfall (Tentative Order No. R9-2018-0002, NPDES No. CA0107981). (*Joann Lim*)

Dr. Abarbanel moved to approve the Consent Calendar, and Dr. Olson seconded the motion. Board Members Abarbanel, Anderson, Morales, Olson, Strawn, and Warren voted "aye." The motion passed.

Remainder of the Agenda (Non-Consent Items):

Item 10 – Informational Item: Presentation from the South Coast Steelhead Coalition on Status and Recovery Efforts in the San Diego Region. *(Chad Loflen)*

Mr. Loflen introduced the item, and Dr. Sandra Jacobson of the South Coast Steelhead Coalition gave the presentation and responded to Board Member questions.

Item 11 – Tentative Resolution: Endorsement of Regional Enforcement Priorities (Tentative Resolution No. R9-2018-0043). *(Chiara Clemente)*

Ms. Clemente gave the staff presentation and responded to Board Member questions.

Dr. Matthew Buffleben, from the State Water Board’s Office of Enforcement, gave a presentation on statewide enforcement priorities and responded to Board Member questions.

David Boyers from the Office of Chief Counsel gave a presentation on available legal services for enforcement and responded to Board Member questions.

Dr. Olson moved to approve Tentative Resolution No. R9-2018-0043, and Mr. Strawn seconded the motion. Board Members Abarbanel, Anderson, Morales, Olson, Strawn, and Warren voted “aye.” The motion passed.

Chair Morales recessed for lunch and Closed Session at 11:56 a.m. Ms. Hagan stated that the Board would discuss Item No. 13 during Closed Session.

Item 13 – *Closed Session*—Consideration of Initiation of Litigation. The San Diego Water Board may meet in Closed Session to discuss the City of Imperial Beach, City of Chula Vista, San Diego Unified Port District, City of San Diego, and County of San Diego’s 60-day Notices of Intent to Sue the United States International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) and to consider initiating litigation against the USIBWC over matters within the San Diego Water Board’s jurisdiction [Authorized under Government Code §11126, subdivision (e)]. *(David Gibson)*

The Board did not take any action during this Closed Session.

Chair Morales reconvened the public meeting at 1:24 p.m. and indicated that the Board took no action during Closed Session.

There being no further business, Chair Morales adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

These minutes were prepared by:

Signed by:

Christina A. Blank

Christina Blank
Executive Assistant

David W. Gibson

David Gibson
Executive Officer